STATE OF CONNECTICUT

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH

J. Robert Galvin, M.D., M.P.H., M.B.A. Commissioner



M. Jodi Rell Governor

July 15, 2009

Dear Reader:

Pursuant to Section 19a-25d (c) which requires the department to submit to the joint standing committees of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to public health, human services, government administration and appropriations, the Department of Public Health is pleased to provide you with a copy of the *State of Connecticut Health Information Technology Strategic Plan*.

History:

Connecticut General Statute §19a-25d (Public Act 07-2, Section 68) required the Department, in consultation with the Office of Health Care Access, to contract for the development of a statewide health information technology plan. In order to assist the Department and OHCA in implementing the legislation, the Department created a Health Information Technology Steering Committee. Members on the Steering Committee represented both state agencies and health care providers, a list of members can be found on page 111 of the attached plan.

In December 2007, the Department issued a request for proposal developed by the Steering Committee. Through the competitive bid process, the contract to create the statewide health information technology plan was awarded to John Snow, Inc. (JSI), an international public health and health information technology consultant. JSI developed the attached plan through an inclusive process of focus groups, provider surveys, steering committee meetings, stakeholder interviews and extensive research on other state's best practices.

Next Steps:

Public Act 09-232, sections 74-77 contains Health Information Technology language designating the Department of Public Health as the lead health information exchange organization for the State. With this designation, the Department will be able to seek private and federal funds for the development of a statewide health information exchange. The Public Act also revises the existing Health Information Technology and Exchange Advisory Committee to create a diverse public-private membership. The Department looks forward to working with the Health Information Technology and Exchange Advisory Committee to implement the provisions set forth in Public Act 09-232.

If you have any questions regarding the attached plan, please feel free to contact Meg Hooper at 509-7218 e-mail: meg.hooper@ct.gov, or Warren Wollschlager at 509-7107 e-mail: warren.wollschlager@ct.gov.

Sincerely,

J. Robert Galvin, M.D., M.P.H., M.B.A.

J Robert Holin MD, MPH, MBA

Commissioner, Department of Public Health

